

# Transgender Equity Council Minutes

Regular Meeting

February 10, 2022 - 05:00 PM

Online Meeting

**Members Present:** Kenzie Weller (Co-Chair), Dianna Anderson, Mae Brooks, Billie Kurek, Nissa Mitchell, Olivia St John, Ameera Sultana Khan, and Taren Wood (Quorum - 8)

**Members Absent:** Becca Sanborn, Davis Senseman, and Destiny Xiong

**Others Present:** Koko Chino (ASL interpreter), Taften Bilbaugh (ASL interpreter), Shunu Shrestha, Ryder Aster

**Staff :** Track Trachtenberg

**Call To Order – 5:18 PM**

1. Roll Call.
2. Adoption of the agenda.

## Discussion

3. Update on online meeting timeline
  1. Will remain online for the foreseeable future; City will migrate Council meetings back to in-person before boards and commissions. State of emergency has been extended indefinitely so that we can legally meet online. When state of emergency ends, will legally be required to meet in person. Can confirm that meeting times still work for everyone at that point
4. Project updates:
  1. Meetings with new and returning Council Members – Track is assessing overlap in priorities with all new Council offices!
    1. Ward 1: community safety + public health, safe use sites, audit
    2. Ward 2: housing (rent control, encampment response), Public Health + Safety, Public Works + Infrastructure, POGO
    3. Ward 9: urban farm, disability justice in minimum wage ordinance, opioid response, community safety, housing (TOPA, rent control, encampment response), supporting racial equity work
    4. Ward 10: housing (TOPA, encampment response, eviction protections, rent control), reproductive justice, Municipal ID, guaranteed basic income, Hennepin Ave Reconstruction, safe use sites
    5. Ward 11: supportive of behavioral health crisis response teams, potentially supportive of ARPA funding asks

2. Progress on fall 2021 recommendations

1. See attached “Fall 2021 TEC Recommendations to Council – Feb 2022 Updates” for summary of movement on TEC recommendations
2. Potential movement on banning no-knock warrants – Mayor has announced a moratorium on no-knock warrants until a new policy is developed. CM Ellison brought in experts to present to Council and Mayor on no-knock warrant bans; Council Members expressed interest but only the Mayor has the power to develop and enact MPD policy. See attached notes below for more information
3. CM Payne is also starting a conversation about changing the charter to create a Department of Public Safety – framed as different than the work that happened for the ballot initiative last year. Will need unanimous support from Council and Mayor in order to change the charter
4. There are no requests for public input on the new community safety work that’s happening, but, that does not mean you can’t give input however you want (individually by reaching out to elected officials, through a collective TEC statement, etc.)

3. Trans Issues Work Group

1. Finishing a few logistics with Procurement and then will be ready to seek Council approval for the Gender Identity Guidelines in Emergency Shelter and Social Service Provision contracts

4. Ongoing Projects

1. Weight and size as a protected class
  1. Talking about adding weight and height to the Civil Rights protections in Minneapolis; met with Civil Rights staff
  2. Department is very understaffed, but they’re interested and want to incorporate this with other updates to Civil Rights Ordinance
  3. Spent a lot of time discussing what need there is – Civil Rights often only recognizes a need when cases come forward, but people rarely realize they can bring forward cases on this, so need to prove need a different way. Research shows that passing the law acts as an education initiative to the population and makes it possible for people who hadn’t realized that what they were experiencing was legally discrimination to now file cases
  4. Deeply intersectional issue
  5. Can’t use disability as a protected class to cover this because there are people who would experience this discrimination but are not fat enough to qualify as a disability
2. Office of Violence Prevention partnership
  1. Opportunity to propose workshop content for Minneapolis Violence Prevention Community Champions

- Content on intimate partner violence and the specific experiences that trans people go through in this context

[Fall 2021 TEC Recommendations to Council - Feb 2022 Updates](#)

[Notes on No-Knock Warrants Council Discussion and Press Conference](#)

5. Co-Chair Elections

1. Dianna – enjoy doing this work, and it’s fun to have a hand in City government and feel like I’m affecting my city in a good way, love this place and want to make it better
2. Olivia – work is focused on storytelling/stakeholder management, and supporting projects I believe in – want to put those skills to use. Often don’t have a choice on being thrust into political discussions; it’s empowering to be a part of the TEC and excited to be involved in any way regardless of role
3. Kenzie – probably moving midyear but interested in ushering in new co-chairs and holding that transition
4. All three elected as co-chairs – 8 in favor, none opposed, 3 absent

6. Priority-setting and subcommittees for 2022

1. Priorities and subcommittees

1. Priorities named: community engagement, proactive prevention of book bans, decriminalizing sex work, gender equity contract updates, department of public safety, Civil Rights ordinance edits, policing – banning no-knock warrants/expanding mental health responders, rent control/housing equity
2. Figuring out how we can work with MPS more, since we don’t actually have authority there – worth trying to find an “in”. Maybe proactive work around LGBTQ+ inclusivity in curricula is part of community engagement work
3. Most of those pieces feel like they could fall under Policy subcommittee, and then a few could be Community Engagement subcommittee
4. Do we still need a Training subcommittee? Maybe can take it on if we find we need it, but don’t worry about it for now
5. Do we want a Budget and/or Budget and Outreach subcommittee? Could help with Summit, bringing in presenters for TEC meetings?
6. Let’s start with two – Community Engagement and Policy. 8 in favor, none opposed, 3 absent

2. Subcommittee official meeting scheduling – Track will send a scheduling poll, and we’ll vote on official calendar at March TEC meeting

3. Presentation requests

1. Track, send a google form for presentation requests and budget

- Budget

[2.10.22 TEC 2022 Planning](#)

**Adjournment – 7:00 PM**

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**Next Transgender Equity Council meeting: Mar 10, 2022**

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- Your name, residential address, email or phone number, or other personal contact details;
- Your comments at the meeting, whether part of a formal hearing or comment period or otherwise; and
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